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# Farm Mobilization FACT SHEET

## The 1952 PRODUCTION GOALS AIM higher than ever

In 1952, U. S. farmers are being asked to turn out the biggest total production in their history. The 1952 goals call for total farm output sharply above 1951 over-all production and about 50 percent more than before World War II. Meeting these goals is essential to the success of our mobilization program. The job ahead will require the utmost cooperation of farmers as well as those who supply them with production materials and equipment or who otherwise assist them.

### WHY WE NEED GREATER PRODUCTION ...

There are several basic reasons why higher production is necessary:

EVEN PARTIAL MILITARY MOBILIZATION CALLS FOR MORE FOOD. Men in uniform eat more than civilians, and military kitchens must be backed up with supplies of 7 to 9 months compared with 7 to 9 days for civilians. The annual rate of expenditures for defense in the third quarter of 1951 was 41 billion dollars compared with a planned increase to 65 billion for the same period in 1952. Part of that extra 24 billion dollars will go for food.

POPULATION IN THE U. S. IS GOING UP AT RATE OF  $2\frac{1}{2}$  MILLION A YEAR. Each morning the U. S. has an additional 7,000 people to feed and clothe. This rate of increase has been going on for several years and is continuing. Also, per capita consumption of food is 13 percent higher than the prewar average.

ABUNDANT PRODUCTION CAN HELP STABILIZE PRICES. To the extent that the supply of food and fiber is sufficient to meet demand, the pressure on prices and wages will be lessened. High level production is our strongest weapon in the fight against inflation.

RESERVES MUST BE MAINTAINED OR BUILT UP. Reserves of certain storable commodities, particularly feed crops, are too low. Looking ahead to the fall of 1952 reserve feed grain stocks will be reduced by at least one-third. For two successive years feed reserves have gone down while livestock numbers have increased.

FOOD CAN FIGHT FOR FREEDOM. Food has made friends for the U. S. in foreign lands and must continue to do so. Continued high exports of food are vital to the achievement of world peace. Foreign demand for many farm products will continue to be large.

# HERE ARE THE MAJOR 1952 P

## MORE FEED CROPS A MUST . . .

Increased production of feed grains is of first importance in 1952 to meet the high and expanding demand for livestock products. No goals are set for livestock production in 1952 because the number that can be produced is directly tied in with the prospective feed supply. Farmers should meet and exceed, if possible, the high goals set for feed grains. Otherwise a downward adjustment in livestock production schedules will be necessary.

**CORN** The 1952 goal is 3,375,000,000 bushels on 89,000,000 acres compared with production of 2,941,423,000 bushels from 83,900,000 acres planted in 1951--a 15 percent increase in production on a 6 percent increase in acreage. This high production is no more than needed for 1952 requirements. It should help level off the downward trend in reserve stocks. A larger corn acreage would be desirable but it might cause unwarranted shifts in crop rotations. The 1952 corn crop will be supported at 90 percent of parity.

**SORGHUM FOR GRAIN** The goal is 200,000,000 bushels on 9,000,000 acres compared with a crop of 159,265,000 bushels from 8,449,000 harvested acres in 1951--a 26 percent increase in production on 7 percent more acreage. Production from much more acreage could be used because grain sorghums can be substituted for corn. The 1952 grain sorghum crop will be supported at a national average price of \$2.38 per cwt. as compared with \$2.17 in 1951.

**BARLEY** The goal is 290,000,000 bushels on 12,865,000 acres compared with 254,668,000 bushels harvested from 10,800,000 acres planted in 1951--a 14 percent increase over 1951 production and a 19 percent increase in acreage. The demand for barley for feed and industrial uses calls for the largest practicable acreage of barley. The 1952 barley crop will be supported at a national average price of \$1.22 a bushel as compared with \$1.11 for the 1951 crop.

**OATS** The goal for oats is to maintain about the 1951 level of production which was 1,316,000,000 bushels. Smaller acreages recommended for oats in the North Central States--to make room for more corn--should be offset by increased acreage in areas where oats yield more feed than corn.

**TAME HAY** The tame hay goal calls for about the same acreage and production as in 1951. Slight reductions in hay acreage in the commercial corn areas to permit increased corn acreage, should be offset by more hay in southern and western livestock areas and in dairying areas.

## RECORD GOAL AGAIN SET FOR COTTON

The 1952 production goal for cotton is 16,000,000 bales on 28,000,000 acres compared with 1951 production of 15,290,000 bales from about 28,000,000 acres in cultivation on July 1--a 5 percent increase in production from about the same acreage. This goal is no more than enough to meet our own needs and export requirements, and to slightly increase reserves which are now the lowest in 25 years. To get the highest possible yields producers are urged to plant cotton on land most suitable for it and to make full use of all available facilities to produce and market a large crop efficiently. The price of cotton in 1952 will be supported at 90 percent of parity.

# HERE ARE THE MAJOR 1952 PRODUCTION TARGETS

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## SOME FOOD CROPS ALSO IN HIGHER DEMAND

The outlook for food grain supplies in 1952 is relatively good. The 1952 wheat goal, for example, will meet estimated domestic and export demands and will add about 100 million bushels to the carry-over. Because of the more urgent need for feed grains, farmers are asked to plant feed grains such as corn, barley and grain sorghums on any available acreage in excess of the food grain goals.

**WHEAT** The 1952 goal is 1,165,000,000 bushels compared with the production of 987,474,000 bushels in 1951--an 18 percent increase in production on slightly increased acreage. The 1952 support price for wheat will be 90 percent of the July 1, 1952 parity price, but not less than \$2.17 a bushel.

**RYE** The goal is 22,500,000 bushels on 1,828,000 acres compared with 21,395,000 bushels harvested from 1,700,000 acres in 1951. The national average price support for the 1952 rye crop is \$1.42 a bushel compared with \$1.30 for 1951.

**RICE** The goal is 42,000,000 100-pound bags of rough rice on 1,950,000 acres compared with production of 43,805,000 bags on the 1,981,000 acres planted in 1951--a 4 percent reduction in production on 2 percent less acreage. Although the 1952 rice goal is less than was produced in 1951, it is still considerably above any year prior to 1951. The 1952 rice crop will be supported at 90 percent of the July 15, 1952 parity price.

**DRY EDIBLE BEANS** The goal is 16,250,000 100-pound bags (cleaned) on 1,638,000 planted acres compared with a 16,000,000-bag crop on 1,523,000 acres planted in 1951--a slight increase in production on about 8 percent more acreage. The 1952 goals call for a reduced acreage of baby lima and pinto beans in view of surplus supplies.

**POTATOES** The 1952 goal is 350,000,000 bushels compared with the production of 325,708,000 bushels in 1951--a 7 percent increase in production. The price support program on potatoes ended on June 30, 1951.

## OTHER MAJOR CROPS

**SOYBEANS**. The goal is 276,000,000 bushels on 13,000,000 acres to be harvested for beans, compared with 280,512,000 bushels from 13,211,000 acres harvested in 1951--a slight decrease in both production and acreage. Although the 1952 soybean goal is slightly under 1951 and '50 figures, it is substantially above the pre-war or post-war average. The 1952 soybean crop will be supported at 90 percent of the November 15, 1951 parity price.

**FLAXSEED** The goal is 38,000,000 bushels on 4,000,000 acres compared with a 1951 crop of 33,802,000 bushels on 4,117,000 acres planted--a 12 percent increase in production on slightly less acreage. Flaxseed grading No. 1 will be supported at a national average price of \$3.77 a bushel.

# HOW PRODUCTION CAN BE INCREASED . . .

Fifty years ago the production problem could have been solved by moving westward and plowing up more land. The 1952 goals, however, will have to be met primarily from higher yields on land now under cultivation. Adding to the problem will be shortages of some essentials for high production such as labor, fertilizer, and some types of machinery.

**EVERY ACRE MUST BE USED EFFICIENTLY.** Farmers will need to make the best possible use of every acre without hurting its long-time productivity. The goals call for several million more acres of cropland than in 1951. No acreage suitable for crops should be left idle in 1952. Some acres now in poor stands of hay and pasture will produce more feed if planted to feed grains. But more attention should be given to conservation and improvement measures on grasslands to relieve the pressure on feed supplies. Only 10 or 15 percent of the Nation's grasslands are now under fully improved management. Much of this grassland acreage could produce several times more forage for livestock if sufficient fertilizer and other necessary materials could be made available.

The yield of food, feed and fiber crops per acre has gone up about 40 percent since the early 1930's, despite substantially fewer farm workers. Further increases are possible through greater efficiency on more farms in the use of fertilizers; improved farm machinery; electrical power and equipment to supplement the dwindling manpower supply; better insect, disease, and weed controls; improved seed varieties; and better land- and water-use practices in general. Specific local information on these matters can be obtained from the County agent and other members of the County Agricultural Mobilization Committees.

## GOALS ARE BASED ON STATE AND NATIONAL ESTIMATES . . .

The 1952 goals are based on realistic estimates of what the Nation needs, and what farmers can produce under existing conditions. National requirements established by an inter-agency food committee were measured against preliminary State and National goals which were reviewed by State Agricultural Mobilization Committees. Special attention was given to results of productive capacity studies conducted by the Land-Grant Colleges and the USDA.

# NATIONAL DEFENSE IS EVERYONE'S JOB!

Mobilization for defense is the job of everyone. Meeting next year's production goals for food, feed, and fiber is just as vital to our country's welfare as meeting defense production schedules for tanks, guns, bombs, B-29's, and fighter jets. Abundant food production is a worthy goal under normal conditions. But there is special need for a united effort in producing more food in 1952.

State and County Agricultural Mobilization Committees have primary responsibility for getting necessary goals information into the hands of farmers.

Those who supply fertilizers, machinery, pesticides, electrical equipment, and other production materials have a big part in this campaign. In general, meeting the goals is a job in which many organized groups also can help. Active support is needed from such groups as the farm organizations, church groups, chambers of commerce, advertising people, farm and trade magazines, weekly papers, radio and television stations, trade associations, and the committees that now serve the USDA in advisory capacities. Everyone--including the consumer--has a real stake in the 1952 goals program.

- - - Other informational materials to aid in meeting the 1952 goals will be issued during the coming months. For further goals information, write to the Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C. - - -